

veterinary medicine here at the University of Nebraska entered into by other states and so forth and so on. Well we've been talking about this now since, at least since 1978 or 79 and it hasn't happened and all this time we've had other bills in to change the rules a little bit and, of course, that's what 533 is all about. It's been my belief all along that there were some things that we needed to do for my industry, that is, the livestock industry. And that I thought we should be doing some of those things rather than waiting on other states, waiting on the federal government, waiting on the mechanisms as we originally laid it out in LB 357 of 1979. Now I think in 1981 when 245 was before us, I suggested at that time that instead of waiting on these other states, waiting on the federal government, that probably what we should do is to enter into a regional agreement with an existing school of veterinary medicine. And, of course, there are those people who say well, the only reason you're trying to do that is because these other schools are only interested because Nebraska's trying to build a school. Well I think that's not true and the reason I think that's not true is because other states are faced with the same problems identically that Nebraska is. As a member of the Education Committee and as its current Chairman, I have visited with legislators from other states, other legislators that are interested in education in those states and I can assure you that the cost of funding post-secondary education in every state that I'm aware of is under the same restraints that we've got here in Nebraska. We simply are having a tough time coming up with the funds to provide the necessary operations of the current educational facilities and this is true in other states, also. It's true in states that do have their own colleges of veterinary medicines. There's another reason that other states are also interested in looking at outside help other than the funding mechanism but because of, the main reason is because number (1) because of the funding mechanism, they would, they do need help. They need assistance. And the other reason is that over the past decade, the federal government has, with the use of a carrot, those nice federal dollars, that manna from the cherry trees back there in Washington that we seem to all think grows back there, that they encouraged about every school of veterinary medicine in the country to expand. And, of course, as they expanded they got their class size larger. Now I'm talking now about those that have been in existence for a few years, then they suddenly saw themselves graduating students that didn't have very much clinical experience. And the reason they didn't have very much clinical experience is because the radius that they drew animals in from for their clinical portion of their program didn't expand even though their class size did. So they're needing assistance in ways to expose their graduating students to more clinical experience.